

*CLAIM AMENDMENTS*

1. (Currently Amended) A wire electrode for wire electrical discharge machining including a three-layer structure comprising an electrically conductive core, a first coating of Cu-Zn intermetallic compound ~~in other than~~ free of an  $\alpha$  phase and surrounding the core, and a second coating of Cu-Zn alloy in the  $\alpha$  phase on the first coating, wherein the second coating has a thickness in a range from 5 to 15  $\mu\text{m}$ .
2. (Currently Amended) The wire electrode for wire electrical discharge machining according to Claim 1, wherein the first coating comprises Cu-Zn ~~alloy~~ in a  $\beta$  phase.
3. (Previously Presented) The wire electrode for wire electrical discharge machining according to Claim 1, wherein the core comprises Cu-Zr alloy.
4. (Previously Presented) The wire electrode for wire electrical discharge machining according to Claim 2, wherein the core comprises Cu-Zr alloy.
5. (Previously Presented) The wire electrode for wire electrical discharge machining according to Claim 1, wherein the core comprises Cu-Zn alloy.
6. (Previously Presented) The wire electrode for wire electrical discharge machining according to Claim 2, wherein the core comprises Cu-Zn alloy.